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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEMS.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that public, educational,  
2 and governmental access channels serve a vital function in the  
3 State by enhancing communications capacities for local  
4 communities and government. The legislature further finds that  
5 the ability of public, educational, and governmental access  
6 channels to perform these services depends on the cable  
7 franchise holder providing equipment and maintenance that will  
8 deliver content on the public, educational, and governmental  
9 access channels that is equal in signal quality to that of local  
10 broadcast channels.

11           The purpose of this Act is to require the director of  
12 commerce and consumer affairs, upon granting an application to  
13 receive or renew a cable franchise, to order the applicant to  
14 provide equipment and maintenance sufficient to ensure that  
15 cable subscribers in the franchise area are able to receive  
16 public, educational, and governmental signals equivalent in  
17 quality to local full-power broadcast signals carried on the  
18 cable system.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 440G, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
3 and to read as follows:

4 "§440G- Public, educational, and governmental access  
5 channels. Upon granting an application to receive or renew a  
6 cable franchise, the director shall order the applicant to  
7 provide equipment and maintenance sufficient to ensure that  
8 cable subscribers in the franchise area are able to receive  
9 public, educational, and governmental access signals equivalent  
10 in quality to local full-power broadcast signals carried on the  
11 cable system, including but not limited to delivery of a high  
12 definition signal to subscribers who have the capability of  
13 receiving high definition signals and simultaneous delivery of a  
14 standard definition signal, closed captioning, stereo, and  
15 multiple audio programming. If the director extends the time  
16 when an existing franchise would otherwise expire, the director  
17 shall require the franchise holder to satisfy these conditions  
18 prior to granting the extension."

19 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

20 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2112.



**Report Title:**

Cable Television Systems; Public, Educational, and Governmental  
Access Channels; DCCA

**Description:**

Requires the director of commerce and consumer affairs to order  
cable franchise applicants to provide equipment and maintenance  
sufficient to ensure that cable subscribers in the franchise  
area are able to receive PEG access channels equivalent in  
quality to local full-power broadcast signals carried on the  
cable system. (HD1)

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not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

